

A METHOD TO DETECT MUTATIONS IN A NUCLEIC ACID USING A
HYBRIDIZATION-LIGATION PROCEDURE

Abstract of the Disclosure

5

The present invention provides a method for detecting a
mutation in a nucleic acid molecule which comprises
contacting the nucleic acid molecule with a probe. The
probe comprises two covalently linked nucleic acid segments
10 under conditions such that the unlinked end of each segment
of the probe is capable of hybridizing with the nucleic acid
molecule. This mixture is then contacted with a ligase
under conditions such that the two hybridized probe segments
will ligate and bind the nucleic acid molecule if the
15 nucleic acid molecule contains the mutation. One would then
determine the presence of bound nucleic acid molecule(s) and
thereby detect the mutation in the nucleic acid molecule.